THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER

April 22, 1986

Vol. IX No. 5

McManus Takes the Lead

Photo by Tom Tremoulay

The changing of the guard; newly elected SGA Executive Board President Dave

by Noreen Casey
Staff Writer

This year the race for the most powerful position in SGA, President of the Executive Board, was an especially close one. Winner David McManus beat Roger Meyers by only 34 of the 608 votes cast.

The president-elect said he was not surprised by the closeness of the race. "There were no signs in either direction during the voting, and no one could tell who won until the votes were actually tallied," he said.

McManus feels that his campaign style gave him the edge necessary to beat Meyers. "I went out door to door and met a lot of people," he said "I relied on personal contacts rather than public relations or gimmicks."

McManus, a business/marketing major, hails from Longmeadow MA., "a little town near Springfield." He began serving SGA as Vice-President of Russell Towers as a freshman in 1983. He became President of Russell Towers in 1984, and Assistant Treasurer of SGA in 1985. He is also serving as chairman of the campus J-board this year.

McManus' main objective for 1985-86 is to make SGA a more unified structure. "Right now everyone is running their own project," he said "each class is doing their own thing." He said that although he realized that each class officer wants to work hardest for the students he/she represents, he would like to develop projects that SGA can work on as a whole. He proposes to do this by having a meeting with the presidents of each class at least once a month.

Another goal is to increase communication between student resources such as Programs, WXPL, and The Strobe. McManus is currently involved in plans to convert The Strobe to a weekly newspaper in the fall.

"I am looking forward to a good year as president next year," said McManus "I learned a tremendous amount about leadership from Chris Callahan this year, and I think the students made the right decision."

SGA Election Results

Executive Board:	
President	Dave McManus
Vice-President	Lisa Desrosiers
Public Info. Officer	Peter Pancare
Student Trustee	Wendy Mead
Commuter's Board:	
President	Winifred Monaghan
Vice-President	Linda D. Wilson
Secretary	Holly McCrann
Senior Class:	
President	Julie Hoy
Vice-President	Lisa Quirk
Treasurer	Lisa Decaro
Secretary	Linda Luciano
Representatives	Carolyn Kelly
	Kim Martin
	Mike Rososky
	Lynn Sawyer
Junior Class:	
President	Kay Mann
Vice-President	Peter Kristo
Treasurer	Andrea Bally
Secretary	Shelley Smith
Representatives	Tim Miller
	Kerri Normand
	Carol Shine
Sophomore Class:	
President	David Altavilla
Vice-President	Jeff Callahan
Treasurer	Jeff Soucy
Secretary	Kathy Houle
Representatives	Keri Ann Dadoly
	Kate Heggarty
	Eric Oliver
	Kathy O'Meara

Jeffko Gives Death Penalty Talk

by James G. Salsman
Staff Writer

Late last month Dr. Walter G. Jeffko, a professor in the Humanities Department, gave a Harrod Lecture titled "Criminal Punishment and the Death Penalty." In his talk Dr. Jeffko detailed his views on capital punishment and examined the philosophic origins of both the pro and con views on the death penalty.

Declaring that "few issues match its emotional intensity," Dr. Jeffko said he wished to promote an "infusion of reason" of "emotion tempered by thought" into the capital punishment issue.

Dr. Jeffko examined what he called a "general theory of punishment" to determine society's purpose in punishing criminals.

He said one side of the issue viewed punishment solely as hardship to be "inflicted as moral condemnation," while the opposite philosophic view saw punishment more as a tool to incarcerate convicted criminals, deter others from committing the same crime and to reform convicted criminals.

Dr. Jeffko stated that both views were relevant. He said the moral condemnation aspect was essential but that it should, whenever possible, include attempts to reform the criminal as well.

Dr. Jeffko rejected the "eye for an eye" viewpoint of equal retribution, and instead claimed that just, rational punishment should be "proportional" but not necessarily equal.

Dr. Jeffko stated that reform was not possible with the death penalty, and he cited studies claiming that it was not a deterrent to crime. He remarked that 90 percent of all murders were "crimes of passion" in which the killer gave no premeditated thought to committing the murder. With this being true, capital punishment would have little deterrent effect.

Dr. Jeffko stated that a rational justice system "should not meet vengeful lust cries" and, therefore, "capital punishment is morally wrong." He concluded by saying the "death penalty should be abolished immediately."

Dr. Jeffko's capital punishment talk was his fourth occasion as a Harrod lecturer, and following his lecture he was presented with an FSC medal by Dr. Patrick Delaney Jr.

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Six Million More Provided For Library Programs

Press Release

The Massachusetts Senate approved $18.5 million in new funds for the state's colleges and universities including $6 million added by Senator John W. Olver (D-Amherst) for college and university library purchases.

The $6 million includes $3 million added by Olver while the bill was in Senate Ways and Means for "scientific, technological and other educational reference material." This raises the current fiscal year's appropriation to $8 million for purchasing library books and journals.

Olver said, "Our university libraries own a woefully inadequate number of periodicals and serial titles. Most state universities of comparable size in the Northeast possess at least twice as many titles. The additional $3 million will bolster the periodical and serial collections. . . for students attending our three state universities."

The bill also provides $10.5 million for engineering equipment and $2 million for nursing equipment for state schools.

Senate 1727 will be considered next by the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Students Attacked

by Allen Bush
Staff Writer

Two FSC students were beaten and their car windows smashed at the intersection of Day and Green Streets on March 25 at one a.m.

According to the owner of the car, who wishes to remain anonymous, a man "jumped off the sidewalk" and smashed the front windshield of his car as he stopped at the stop sign.

After contacting the police, the student and his roommate met an officer at the scene, but all failed to find the attacker.

Continued to Page 2

Life on Mars Discussed

by Sharon Antanovich
Contributing Writer

The newly-formed FSC Chemical Society sponsored a seminar on the recent Mars Viking Expedition. Featured was guest speaker Dr. Plum from the Worcester Polytechnical Institute.

For the past ten years Plum has been working with NASA, fellow professors and graduate students on biological experiments to determine if life can exist on Mars. He has conducted his studies in Cambridge, England and Australia as well as at WPI.

The two automatic Viking Probes, which landed on opposite sides of Mars, were equipped with the instruments needed to carry out the biological experiments. They took samples of the planet's atmosphere and soil and determined their composition. The results were then sent back to the U.S.

Plum and his associates are still studying the data. Plum hopes to publish his findings in the near future.

FEATURES

Louis Simpson:
Poet of the People

by Debra Donston
Staff Writer

Louis Simpson, Pulitzer Prize winning poet, biographer and critic, spoke March 25 in the Campus Center Lecture Hall.

Simpson's poetry is prose-like in form and narrative in style. "I'm trying to put storytelling back into poetry," said Simpson. Reviewers have noted that Simpson has brought poetry back to the "common people."

The subject matter of Simpson's poetry ranges from World War II to Walt Whitman; but more often than not, Simpson writes about human feeling and the human condition. Each poem is a vignette, many of which are taken from Simpson's own life experiences.

Simpson, a soft-spoken, distinguished man, read selections from his six volumes of poetry, including his most recent, *Best Hour of the Night.* Simpson joked about the ambiguity of the poetry of John Ashbery, a recent speaker at FSC. "I sometimes worry when I read a poem that some in the audience may not know what I'm talking about, but since you had John Ashberry here, I'm not worried," he said.

Because he was born and raised in Jamaica, Simpson cites America and its culture as one of his early preoccupations. Simpson came to the United States at the age of 17 and has written at length on the subject.

"American Classic" is a poem about a couple who have been stranded on the side of the highway because their car has broken down. Simpson effectively captures the feelings of helplessness and isolation that every motorist unfortunate enough to be in this situation has felt. "The feeling of being left out, through no fault of your own, is a common one—that's why I call it 'American Classic'."

In an informal question and answer period, Simpson was asked to give his definition of poetry. "I don't have one. I don't know what it is," he replied. "What is a poem to one person may not be a poem to another." Simpson gave as an example the difference between Milton's *Paradise Lost* and a Japanese haiku. "There is no one definition to cover both," he said.

Photo by Chris Dunshee

Pulitzer Prize winning poet Louis Simpson

Attack

From Page 1

As the patrolman left, the man with the axe handle came out of an apartment building and smashed the rear window of the student's car while the police car's tail lights were still in view.

After a brief argument, the second student was badly assaulted.

The police were contacted again, sending five cruisers to the scene, but, after looking for an hour, failed again to locate the assailent.

Both victims felt the police handled the situation well but quoted them as saying that because of resentment toward the college students from the neighborhoods, they felt the "place was going to erupt soon."

As of this deadline, a suspect has been picked up and questioned, but no arrests have been made.

Band Features Michelle Smith

by Laura Gengo
Contributing Writer

Michelle Smith is a freshman at FSC with a major in Psychology. She is an active member of the FSC Band and Jazz Ensemble directed by Dr. Frank Patterson. In September, she was elected Band Librarian. Michelle plays the tenor saxaphone, and for her own enjoyment, she plays the flute and the piano.

In November, the FSC Band hosted and participated in an Intercollegiate Band Festival at which Michelle was awarded a Special Talent Scholarship for her outstanding musical talent. Recently she was recommended by Dr. Patterson to participate in the All New England Intercollegiate Band. Michelle said "It was a great honor and pleasure to be a selected member of this extraordinary Band. The experience was stimulating and challenging for me. It pushed me to the fullest extent of my ability as a musician. Socially, I had the opportunity to meet other college students from all over the New England area."

The FSC Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Dr. Patterson are very proud of Michelle and her representation of FSC.

Faculty Profile:
Professor Thomas H. Morrill

by Marilyn Hyson
Contributing Writer

Physics professor Thomas H. Morrill, with his athletic build, dark-rimmed glasses, dark hair and a V-neck sweater over a white shirt, is a short version of Clark Kent. And like Kent's alter ego, Superman, Morrill takes his students on a flight through the universe each semester via about 900 vivid slides.

Probably because they had heard that Halley's comet would be visible this semester, students who registered for his class at FSC exceeded the seating capacity of the room. Out of necessity some students were turned away.

His first set of slides began with an aerial view of a couple sunning in a Chicago park from the distance of one meter, increasing the distance at an expotential rate to the unfathomable distance of ten to the 26th power. From this corner of space the view from the hypothetical edge of the universe, the entire Milky Way Galaxy faded into less than a dot. The computer simulations of known galaxies which scientists have observed in radio telescopes, were calculated from the motion and gravitational pull of celestial bodies on each other. The distances were astronomical—humungous is the current jargon.

Morrill was asked a question about the possibility of our planet being visited from outer space. He said that although there are 100 billion stars in our galaxy, it takes light from the nearest star four light years to reach us. He said it would take billions of years for anyone to travel that distance.

"We have reason to believe that fifty percent of the stars in the Milky Way are double or binary stars; their behavior is affected by the gravitational pull of a sister star. We suspect that the other half of the stars in our galaxy have a ring of materials or debris around them which is not dense enough to form a second star. Planets could form from this material. At least five such systems have been photographed to date," Morrill advised as he points to an electronic photo on his door calendar which depicted one of those planetary systems.

He said that some scientists speculate that inhabitants of other worlds would be different from human forms. However, Morrill and others think that in order for inhabitants of other worlds to develop technology that would enable them to do inter-galaxial travel, they must have a working brain with senses and tool-holding appendages.

"Any questions?" asked Morrill after he had briefly outlined what he would cover in the Astronomy course for the incoming class.

"How do black holes form?" asked one student.

"A black hole could be born when a huge cluster of stars collapse," answered Morrill, his dark eyes sparkling like the stars he would be elucidating.

"But how do they know there is a black hole there?" asked the student.

"Scientists can study x-rays which could only be emitted when material falls into a very massive object—the mass of a black hole is so dense that the gravity does not allow the light to be emitted—there may be a black hole in our galaxy," went on Morrill. Students who were new to the subject of astronomy felt their understanding slipping away into one of the black holes. They preferred that black holes remain in a remote place. His placing a hypothetical black hole in their solar system was an infringment on their space.

The thought that there may be a black hole in our galaxy is as frightening to the modern generation as eclipses and thunder storms must have been for primitive people. The professor's words sounded more like a science fiction story than a science class. The class decided they were not ready to ask any further questions about the subject of black holes until they learned more about astronomy.

Professor Morrill demonstrated via mathematics how scientists can verify the available photographic and electronic data. "With the probable launch of a 2.4 meter Hubble telescope into atmosphere-free space possibly this year, we should be able to see almost to the creation of the universe calculated as being 15 or so billion light years away, the fallout from the first big bang is still arriving in our solar system. The light could appear as snow on a television screen.

"After the protons and electrons found each other by one million years after the Big Bang, the universe became transparent so that we now see outer space as black." He likened the transparency of space to the darkness into which automobile lights shine. Car lights are visible head-on or when they are surrounded by fog; but in a parking lot there is no light to the front of the headlights unless there is a wall or object for them to reflect upon.

Morrill, a native of Framingham, obtained his degrees in the field of physics; a bachelors: from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, a masters degree from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and his doctorate at Boston University. He taught at Boston University and Emmanuel College before coming to FSC, where he has been assistant professor of physics since 1982. In his lectures he generates enthusiasm which matches the dynamics of his subject.

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Evening Students Seek Student Association

by James Noonan
Contributing Writer

Students from the Division of Graduate and Continuing Education met on February 11 and March 26 to explore the viability of forming a "Student Evening Association." Plans for presenting a formal constitution, organization plans and future events were covered at these meetings.

Spokesperson Sue Roncone, Marketing evening student major, feels the association is a needed step in providing night students with a "more defined identity providing students with a support group, advise, council, networking and socializing."

"The night students need a voice of their own and a focal point to turn to seek advice in all matter related to their academic life within the Fitchburg State College community.

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Announcements . . .

I.T. Department

The Industrial Technology Department at Fitchburg State College will offer a five-day summer institute in robotics and flexible manufacturing June 23-27.

The program, funded in part by the Bay State Skills Corporation, is aimed at industrial arts instructors from secondary and vocational schools. Course work for the 3 graduate-credit course will include lectures and laboratory sessions on automated manufacturing equipment such as robotics and computer numerically controlled (CNC) machinery.

Medical Technology

The Medical Technology Club will be sponsoring a lecture on AIDS on April 30, 1986 at 7 p.m. in Weston Auditorium. The guest speaker will be Jean Warfolk from the Nursing Department. Mrs. Warfolk will give information on routes of transmission, precausions which can be taken, who is susceptible and other important aspects. The discussion will be kept on a general level. All majors are welcome.

New Course

The workshop will be conducted by Larry Maness, a professor and communications consultant who has over 15 years of writing and teaching experience. His corporate script-writing ranges from PR/Image productions for the WORLDESIGN Conference of International Industrial Designers to technical training programs for Wang Laboratories. He has also written for PBS and commercial television. He joined the Technical Writing faculty at FSC after having taught at Emerson College and Boston University. Mr. Maness is President of Maness Associates, a marketing/communications firm in Cambridge, MA.

Passover

Any Jewish student wishing to spend Passover and Seder dinner with a local Jewish family, contact Dr. Alan Bernstein, Behavioral Sciences Department, Extension 3244.

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Aunt Betty Did It

Commentary

by Lisa Paine
Staff Writer

I made friends with an Aunt Betty the other night.

Why is it that I am the kind of person Aunt Betty's like? She invited me to her home for the summer.

Aunt Betty, who was visiting Fitchburg from Altoona, Pennsylvania, is a funny old woman, but unintentionally so. Unintentionally funny, that is. I'm sure it is her full intention to be old.

It kills me the way she talks sometimes.

She is not my Aunt Betty, but a friend's great-Aunt Betty, who is quickly becoming my Aunt Betty because of the relationship my friend and I share (any-Aunt Betty-of-yours-is-an-Aunt Betty-of-mine type of relationship) and because Aunt Betty wants to be my Aunt Betty as well as my friend's Aunt Betty.

On the way to Fitchburg, Aunt Betty's niece, my friend's mother, went to pick her up at the train station. (Aunt Betty's do not take too well to flying).

Being Aunt Betty's typical, Aunt Bettyish self, when she saw a porter give her suitcase to a man on the landing, she yelled out that someone was stealing her luggage. The man who was taking the luggage was Aunt Betty's husband, Uncle Bob.

I guess she did not recognize him from far away.

I heard that story about twelve times from Aunt Betty's family telling it to other people in the family or people who came to visit, drop off a newspaper or deliver a pizza.

The family also told stories of their shopping adventures with Aunt Betty.

One time she was in K-Mart trying on hats. Aunt Betty, who like most Aunt Betty's wears a wig (and shops at K-Mart), did not actually lose the wig when she was trying on hats (Aunt Betty's are much too clever for that). She did not notice, however, the front of the wig did a side swing and decided to face in the other direction without telling her.

A wig on crooked is as conspicuous to a viewer as a pair of underwear on backwards is to the wearer (unless the wearer is Aunt Betty).

Not only did I hear all the stories from the family about Aunt Betty, but in an unsuspecting moment, when my guard was down and the family had pulled a fast one, I was left with Aunt Betty and was obligated to become her attentive audience.

It appeared to have been quite a long time since she had had an attentive audience.

Aunt Betty did not let her opportunity slip away. Like her wig, the stories, too, were a bit off-balance.

The best story, of many, was the one about the time my friend's mother first injured someone with a B-B gun.

As the story goes, the gun went off accidently on the leg of the girl in town her niece most hated. The beautiful strawberry blonde, blue-eyed snot seemed made to be hated by all the little girls less fair than herself in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Although the story was amusing enough, Aunt Betty overdosed on details when she explained her niece's experience with guns. She said that Uncle Bob taught her how to use a 21.

A 21.

I thought that was hilariously funny, but how could I laugh at her when she did not notice her slip?

I died laughing.

I died from the gun wounds of a 21, and God did it feel good.

I wonder who Aunt Betty is telling this story to now.

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EDITORIALS

The Strobe encourages all readers to express their opinions on any issue.

Hazing: Serious Business

The new anti-hazing law passed recently is long overdue. Although it is understandable that a fraternity or sorority wants to make sure that potential members are serious and eager to join, hazing is an unnecessary means of proving it. No one should be forced to undergo extreme physical and/or mental stress to prove their "worthiness" to join an organization.

Some organizations may feel that the boundries of the law are unclear, however, the law states quite specifically which activities are prohibited. If an organization is unsure of whether an action "endangers the physical or mental health of any student," then perhaps they should discontinue that particular method of initiation.

Although the I-went-through-it-so-should-they attitude of many former pledges may be difficult to overcome, the fraternities and sororities on this campus would be wise to take the law seriously. Sooner or later a case based on this law is going to come to court, and these organizations could save themselves time and money if they re-evaluated their pledging practices now before a court does it for them.

To Obey, or Not to Obey

by James G. Salsman

President Reagan will soon have to decide whether or not to continue abiding by the unratified SALT II treaty. This question arises because that treaty, and others, are being openly violated by the Soviet Union.

Some Soviet violations of SALT I, SALT II and the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missle treaty list as follows: deployment of SS-19 and SS-17 ICBMs, development and deployment of mobile ABM radars and battle management ABMs, continued deployment of SS-16s, deployment of new submarines exceeding the 740 missle launcher limit without dismantling other missle launchering subs, and the testing and deployment of the SS-25 ICBM.

This doesn't even cover Soviet violations of past test bans and other international treaties, which are just as numerous.

We are sending an ominous signal to the Soviet dictators if we continue to obey the limits of treaties they have unilaterally violated. It's even worse when we do this so as not to upset discussions which we hope will lead to similar agreements in the future.

Arms control is a cruel hoax. The Soviets will obey what they want to obey and violate what they want when it is in their interest to do so. It is not enough to meet such violations when they arise. Because of the agressive nature of the Soviet regime we should not risk waiting until the moment our security is threatened to then do something about it.

The Soviets cheat. Their arms control violations prove this. The facts are there to be seen, not ignored. They cheat to build their arms so as to advance their ideology. Here lies the danger we must face. They are not going to let a piece of paper stand in the way of their expressed goal to dominate the West.

President Reagan should renounce all arms accords with the Soviets so we may be free to begin meeting their growing threat.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the Editor's Board. Signed editorials are the opinion of the author and do not reflect the opinion of the STROBE.

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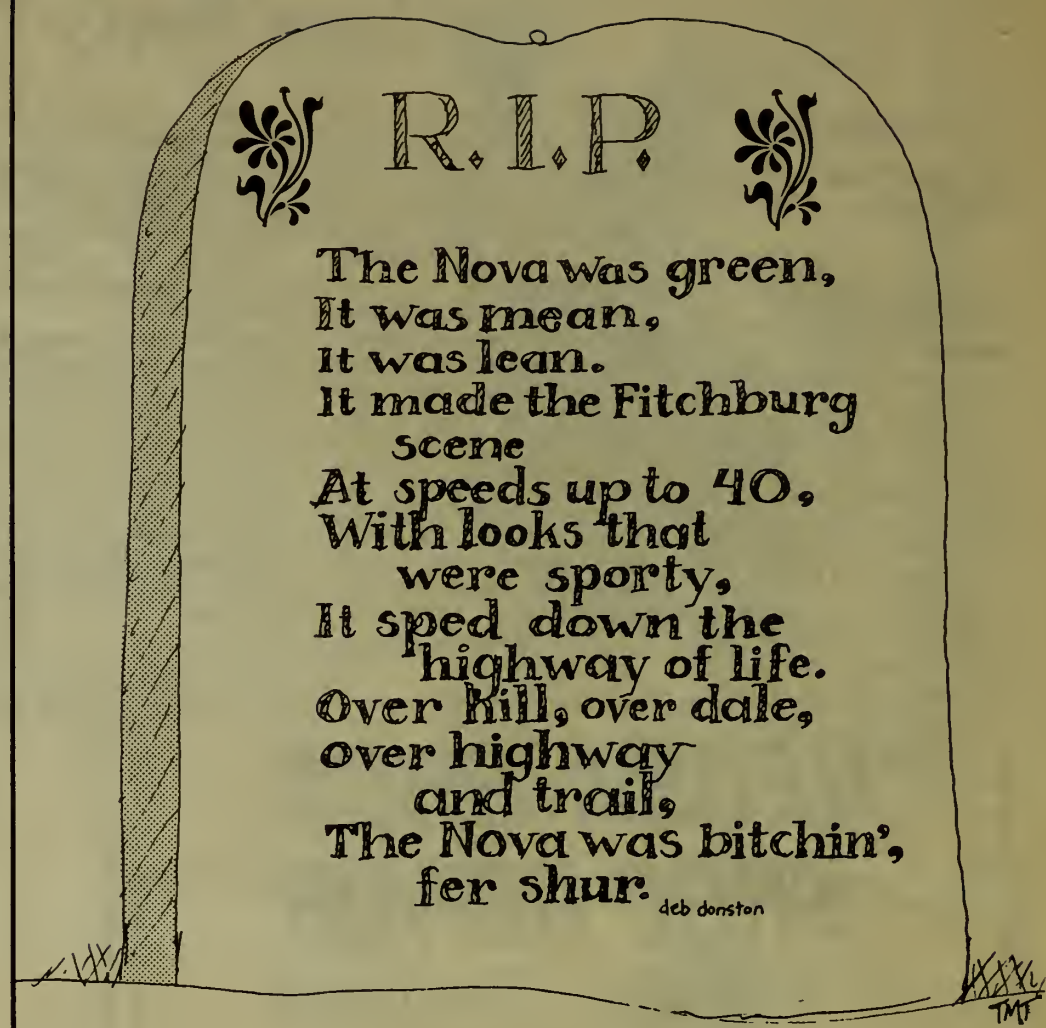

News/Features Editor Deb Donston lost her car in an unfortunate accident on April 10th. This cartoon is dedicated to her and the car.

LETTERS

Students Herded to Florida

To the Editor:

This is an angry response to the disrespectful treatment of college students during spring break.

An example of this treatment lies in the form of a charter airline that experienced mechanical difficulties prior to a flight to Ft. Lauderdale.

The students waited to board the flight and angrily watched other passengers quickly go through the gates of their respective airlines, while they listened for a word about their charter flight.

About a half an hour later it was learned that the airline was experiencing a mechanical breakdown. There were no representatives from the airline or from the two sponsoring travel agencies to speak to the students to inform them of the progress of their flight. What was supposed to be a 10 p.m. flight turned out to be a 5 a.m. departure. Tired and angry, the students were not treated with respect by the flight attendants once aboard the plane.

For the return flight, treatment of the students did not improve. Before the luggage was ticketed, the students were told that there would be a ten hour delay. The explanation for the delay this time was that the pilot needed his Federal Aviation Regulation sleeping time.

The students were treated to what was supposed to be a $10 meal at the airport restaurant then they were bussed to a hotel 20 minutes away. The hotel allotted 15 rooms to accomodate over 170 people. The students felt they were treated like cattle. The originally scheduled flight for 10:30 p.m., departed at 7:30 a.m. from the airport.

I don't feel the students were treated as everyday paying customers but were treated as annoying burdens to be handled once a year. I think that all airlines should think twice before being disrespectful. A college student's money is exactly the same as everyone else's.

Denise Connors

Photographers Feel Slighted

To the Editor:

A photographer's hard work should always be recognized and the photographer given full credit. To look at the recent MEN OF FSC and WOMEN OF FSC Calendars, one might think that Rick Dearborn was the photographer. The '86 class president certainly made sure his name was printed enough (and right at the top to boot). Dearborn, however, didn't take any of the photographs in either calendar.

Since Dearborn and the other senior officers rudely omitted the photographers names, let me tell you who they were. Ken Lopardo, a senior Communications/Media student, now on internship, took all the studio photographs. I photographed all the on-location shots in the library, G-lobby and in the gym. Our names were not printed anywhere in the calendars.

I am angry and upset that Ken and I were not given the credit we deserved for our hard work. We volunteered both our time and services as photographers to Dearborn and the other senior class officers and in return, got the shaft.

Marlene Desautels
Communications/Media '87

COMMENTARY

Donstonomics

by Debra Donston
Staff Writer

The picture of the "struggling college student" may seem a cliche to some, but for those of us working to put ourselves through school, the picture is all too clear.

Since classes and other assorted extra curricular activities do not allow me to work many hours, and as my position as a clerk in a bookstore does not place me in one of the higher tax brackets, I have developed a personal money management system. I like to think of it as Donstonomics.

My car, a beautiful 1973 Chevy Nova, is my biggest money worry. Aside from car payments and insurance, the car guzzles gas like a banshee. I've developed a sixth sense for knowing when it's absolutely, positively necessary to stop for gas, and when the gage is "just kidding." So far I've only been wrong three times. (I've learned it's a good idea to keep a jug and funnel in the car at all times—you never know.)

Another large dent in my paychecks are bills from places where I have charge cards. I never seem to be able to pay them off before I go off on another spree of compulsive shopping. Each month I decide which store has sent the most notices and which is the most impatient. They get paid—the others will just have to understand.

Another important aspect of money management is knowing where to find money when the paycheck and the bank account have run dry. I've found that one largely untapped source of ready cash is aluminum can recycling. As an admitted *Tab* addict, I can scrounge around my house and car and come up with about $5.00 worth a month. They always know I'm low on funds at work when our supply of employee empties mysteriously disappears. The way I figure it, I'm protecting the environment as well as supporting myself.

Other untapped resources include clothing and furniture. Going through the pockets of your clothes, especially coats and jackets from the previous season, can produce untold wealth. (My father's overcoat had $2.00 in the inside pocket—I'm sure he would have wanted me to have it anyway.) Furniture can also yield a surprising plethora of pecunia. Unsuspecting loungers with loose pockets may find themselves relieved of their change after a relaxing nap in an overstuffed easy chair. It all adds up.

Next time you're short on cash and long on plans, you might want to consider Donstonomics. Money management is simply a matter of budgeting, common sense, ingenuity and an inclination towards the illegal.

Who needs IRA's, the stock market and tax shelters? All you need is a good head for finance, some imagination and a few empty cans of *Tab*.

Running For Your Life

by Kellie Dauphinais
Staff Writer

There is nothing more exhilarating than a good run.

However, running may become boring, methodical and monotonous to even the most dedicated athlete. Fortunately, for runners across New England there is spring running. When the winter doldrums have taken their toll on every pair of New Balance sneakers in sight, a change in seasons miraculously takes place.

Spring running differs from running during the other seasons, because although it is exhilarating, it is more often exasperating. The bright sun and the warm wind are deceiving as runners are forced to contort their bodies into Gumby-like positions. Snow mounds have not disappeared over night and must be hurdled. Ice patches remain slick even though the temperatures are seemingly soaring. Pot holes are a test of agility for the brave athlete whose ankles are grabbed, gnarled and tortured by these evil black holes.

The first runs of spring are assumed to be easy carefree affairs that leave the runner panting for his next jaunt. More appropriately, these excursions end with sopping wet sneakers and mud stained socks. Running garb must be continuously altered, as the temperature rises and falls. The wind breaker and stretch pants drain the vitality out of the runner on one day, whereas the t-shirt and shorts leave the poor athlete with chapped extremities. There seems to be a lack of a happy medium.

There is, however, a positive side to this distinct form of seasonal running. After three months of running in, over and around the various remains of winter, spring turns into summer. With the blistering heat of July and August, the athlete who has tested his bodily strength and mental sanity during spring hasn't a thing to worry about. Spring running proves to be the best training for any potential survivalist—obstacles abound. Beware the sunny days and sweet air of spring. Deception is lurking around every corner for the unprepared spring running enthusiast.

Mouthing Off

by Lisa Paine
Staff Writer

While some people revel in the ordinary mouth games of nail biting, smoking and gum chewing, Jenny recently revealed the slew of oral occupations she has indulged in.

"I was always fascinated (as a child) when I had a loose tooth," she said. "I would wiggle the hell out of it with my tongue and would eventually pull it before it was really ready to come out. I would tie a string around the tooth and tie the other end to my foot or something, like you'd see on the cartoons.

"Once when I was little my sister Becky had a loose tooth but she wouldn't let me pull it out. I liked pulling other people's teeth out, too. We were at my grandmother's house and Becky was eating an apple. She let me have a bite, but when I bit into it I found a tooth. It was the strangest feeling because I didn't really think it could have been my tooth, but for a minute I thought it had to be, since I found it in my mouth.

"Soon enough we found out it was Becky's but I didn't want to give it back to her because I wanted the Tooth Fairy to give *me* the quarter.

"When I was a kid I always wanted to have braces, too. I guess I was lucky not to need them, but I begged my parents to let me go to an orthodontist.

"Needless to say, I never got to the orthodontist. No parent is going to test fate in that department . . . so I resorted to putting tin foil around my teeth so it would look like a retainer. My friend had a retainer, and I thought it was pretty cool. She once threw her retainer away with her lunch tray and we had to go out in the school yard's dumpster to look for it.

Jenny said that around the same time as the longing to wear braces and retainers she thought smoking would be effective. "When the gang and I were out in the woods behind my house, we would make cigarettes out of little twigs. We would use crayons to make the brown part brown, the white part white and the tip red. It was pretty weird.

"For some reason I've always liked to have things in my mouth. I would put orange peels and hard-boiled egg whites in my mouth so they would look like uppers," she said, chewing on a pen cap.

"During recess at the Catholic grammar school I went to, all the kids would pretend that Neco Wafers or potato chips were the Holy Eucharist and go through the motions of receiving Communion. I guess it was pretty sacrilegious. What a bunch of beasts we were. We once made up this song, "The Night the Nuns Died," to the tune of "The Night Chicago Died." We were dead meat after that fiasco.

"I don't know. Maybe if my mother had let me suck my thumb when I was a kid, I would have had my oral fulfillment early in life," she said.

"This is going to sound really stupid, but would you happen to have a toothpick?"

Cape Cod Blacklists Students

by Allen Bush
Staff Writer

Blacklisting is alive and well and living on Cape Cod.

If you've rented on the Cape and had tendencies to play the stereo at 100 db's, stay up all night screaming, throw parties that filled your cottage, the yard, and most of the street, or you just didn't keep the place clean, chances are your name is on a list that circulates around the Yarmouth area.

The list contains names of the occupants at a given address and the dates occupied, submitted by landlords who feel those tenants shouldn't be rented to again.

The list is primarily made up of students.

With the demand for summer rentals rising each year, real estate agents can choose who they rent to and with property value increasing, landlords feel they need to keep out unruly guests to secure their property.

The list will only be used if an applicant has indicated they've rented on the Cape before.

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The Strobe encourages readers to express their opinions. The following are guidelines for submissions:

1. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced.
2. Letters to the editor must include the author's name. If the person wishes to remain anonymous, The Strobe will withold the name, but it still must be included with the letter.
3. Editorials and Letters are limited to 450 words and are subject to editing. Editorials are written in the third person.
4. News and announcements from clubs and organizations must be one paragraph in length. If they are too long, they will be made short.

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Interview with Jon Butcher Axis

by Allen Bush
Staff Writer

The Jon Butcher Axis is back home again.

They've considered Boston home since they were formed in 1980. We've stuck by them, believing in their live performances, scrutinizing their records, and praying on that they'd be returned to national prominence.

Now, after some very successful time away, the Axis has returned and have every right to be proud to tell us of their adventure. They know we'll be just as excited and feel important for being there from the beginning.

And it wasn't like they went anywhere. It wasn't that hard to follow them around. Their new and best album was released, Jon appeared in a video with Jeff Beck, and they earned a Grammy nomination.

I had a chance to talk to Jon Butcher and drummer Derek Blevins before their March 7 show at E.M. Loew's.

The Jon Butcher Axis has been together for six years but Jon and Derek have been playing together for eleven. They first met while they were playing in different bands that sometimes shared the same bill. Noticing each other's talent, Jon fired his drummer and Derek joined the band which evolved into the Axis five years later.

They recorded two albums for Polygram both fairly successful. Jon comments on "Store At The Sun." (their second release) "It was an experience that wasn't optimal. There were a lot of things that were wrong. Wrong producer, wrong place to record and we didn't belong in the farm country of Wales. I don't like to talk about it because it's not positive and I like to accentuate the positive."

Their latest record, "Along the Axis", has captured Jon's vocals and guitar artwork very close to his live performances. It's the band's first on Capitol and with producer Spencer Proffer. "We go into his studio and work as hard as we can to come up with something that's indicative to the way we feel about music. We just try to get an accurate representation of the band in the studio," Derek said. "I think it's the best record we've ever made."

"The Ritual", from Along the Axis, earned the band an unexpected Grammy nomination for Best Instrumental. Although they lost to Jeff Beck, they say they still feel like winners because of the publicity and the lift the nomination gave them.

Working in a new studio with a new producer has been a positive step for the band. Some studios in the past have been too comfortable. The country studios where they recorded the first two albums were "too laid back", and that's affected the way the band works. "I think we record better when we record in some grimy city. You get out of a taxi cab, and you've been in traffic all day. It has more of an edge," Derek commented.

The Axis has made use of recent hi-tech advancements but they haven't lost sight of the music. "It's still about the music," Jon said. "It's not about whatever hi-tech invention you care to mention. The music is first but the better the tools, the better the expression.

The Grammy nomination, new record label, and an energetic new album are all levels of success, but "being able to do what you want to do provided you don't hurt anybody" is Jon's idea of success.

Personal highlights of his career include his first record, playing the Boston Garden for three nights opening for J. Geils, and being at the Grammies. He likes to read Stephen King and has written a book of poetry which he said he "may or may not publish, because it's still too personal."

During the interview, Jon showed his personal side. His band has done a number of benefits but he explained that it's not a band working for nothing that should be noticed. It's the people that attend that are important. "I think it's important for you and I as people to be involved with things. Helping people is a good idea for humans."

He also took a stand politically. "I hope that Congress doesn't Okay the hundred million for the Contras. We're not known as a political band but I have to take a particular stand against that. I think there are other ways we can limit the spread of "Communism" rather than sending money to more little insurgencies in Central America."

Like old friends coming for a visit, the Axis will play around New England for the next couple of months and then head back to California to record their next album.

Van Halen's "5150": Life After Dave

by Tim Boutin
Staff Writer

Whether you love or hate the man, one has to admit that David Lee Roth has a certain reptilian charm. With a wise ass sense of humor and his street savvy, he seemed to be the cog in the Van Halen machine that set them apart from other bands in their genre. When Roth left the band last year after the immense success of his "Crazy From The Heat" e.p., he took that aspect of Van Halen with him.

I admire Roth for his pure chutzpah but, in my opinion, the last good album he made with Van Halen was "Fair Warning," and that's going back to 1981. For whatever reason(s), the band was stagnating with him at the helm. Ask yourself if anything on "1984" is half as good as "Mean Street" or "Take Your Whiskey Home" and see if you don't agree with me. me.

So Roth leaves the band to make some half-baked movie (which, has ceased production), and to launch his solo career. Although "Crazy From The Heat" is a lightweight pop affair, the band he's assembled is anything but that. Let's see, we have Steve Vai (ex-Alcatrazz, Frank Zappa, PiL) on guitar, and Billy Sheehan (ex-Talas, UFO, and Michael Schenker Group) on bass. Yeah, these metal mongers are going to be content playing "California Girls" and "Just A Gigolo." Believe that and I've got some ocean front property on Myrtle Ave. I'd like you to see.

Meanwhile, Van Halen announced that veteran rocker Sammy Hagar is Roth's replacement.

It's important to note that Roth and Eddie Van Halen despise one another. That factor, more than any other, was the probable reason for Roth's Roth ever dreamed of being. His Eddie Van Halen — Sammy Many of the songs on "1984" have a particular angst to them i.e. "Drop Dead Legs," and "House of Pain."

The day Roth was handed his walking papers was the day Eddie Van Halen awoke from his self-imposed stupor. "5150" is the best album I've heard in some time.

Technically, Sammy Hagar is a much better vocalist than Roth ever dramed of being. His range apparently inspired Van Halen, who performs with an emotion that he's never previously displayed. Instrumentally this band still kicks ass. "Good Enough," "Summer Nights," or "Get Up," stand up to any old VH number you care to mention.

There are several tracks that deserve special mention. "Dreams": A song that would have been impossible to record with Roth. Hagar's rich vocal range brings this tune full circle as do the lyrics. "World turns black and white/Pictures in an empty room/Your love starts falling down/Better change your tune."

"Inside": The album's closer and proof that this band still has a sense of humor. "What kind of crap is this," remarks one member at the start of the tune. "I don't know, I really thought it was going to be different this time," remarks another. This is a funky little tune which, in a round about way, describes what went down on the "inside" with Roth and Hagar. There's a party-type conversation track layered under the tune that is quite funny, when you can make out what is being said.

The rhythm section of Alex Van Halen and Michael Anthony is spectacular. But the Eddie Van Halen - Sammy Hagar collaboration is the story of this record. Rarely are two musicians as in tune with one another's style as these two gentlemen are. They inspire one another, making each tune a little different from the next.

A brilliant effort. Van Halen 1, Roth 0.

Binder Returns to FSC

by Tim Boutin
Staff Writer

Dave Binder renewed a popular Coffeehouse tradition on March 30, when he made his yearly appearance at "The Connection."

Binder sings and plays guitar like many Coffeehouse performers, but his playful and friendly stage manner makes him an unusual pleasure to watch and listen to. He has the ability to get a crowd involved in his act, whether it's clapping time to Dire Straits' "Money For Nothing," or singing alone to "The Unicorn Song. (You got your green alligators . . .")

Binder chose to be a bit on the raunchy side this particular evening. Interspersed through the set were Binder versions of "Three Gay Caballeros," and "Tell Me That You Love Me." Of course there were the James Taylor tunes, a few Binder originals and Cat Steven's "Wild World."

Binder, using various pedals and echo effects, has a voice markedly similar to Taylor. He praised Taylor s new album and told the audience to rush out and buy it. I was encouraged by the featured inclusion of original material in his set, something that I hadn't seen before at previous Binder performances. Hopefully, the man can find his own niche, away from the Taylor sound.

Now managing himself (he was formerly affiliated with Littlefield Management), perhaps Binder is ready to make the big jump from the Coffeehouse/wedding/college circuit to something else. He's never sounded better.

Comments

If you have any ideas or suggestions concerning upcoming issues of The Strobe, please drop a letter in the Editor's mailbox or stop down the office sometime during the day. (The Strobe office is located on the bottom floor of the Hammond building).

Sexton Plays the Paradise

Photo by Marlene Desautels

Charlie Sexton—Rockin' the Paradise.

by Marlene Desautels
Contributing Writer

After two hours in the drizzling rain and long delays due to sound difficulties, Charlie Sexton didn't disappoint the sold-out and enthusiastic audience at the Paradise Theater in Boston Friday night, March 14.

The 17 year-old rock n' roller from Austin, Texas, dressed in tight black snake-skin pants, a white old-style John Wayne shirt and a long black leather coat, opened with "Pictures For Pleasure," the title of Sexton's debut album.

Sporting a spiky Bauhaus-like hairdo and a ponytail swinging down his backside, Sexton's sensuous deep voice melted more than a few hearts with "Restless," another cut from his album.

He borrowed the Sex Pistols' "Silly Thing" and David Bowie's "Rebel Rebel" adding them to his own songs, "Impressed," "Beat's So Lonely," and "Attractions." He also sang a provocative and slower version of Presley's "Don't Be Cruel."

The Texan singer appeared somewhat uncomfortable on stage, but after the first two songs he relaxed. Realizing he had the audience listening to his music, Sexton frequently broke out in smiles. His Texan drawl was obvious as he introduced many of his numbers and talked with the audience. A slight British accent also slipped in every now and then.

The band was more than competent on their instruments. Musical interplay, like instrumental solos and the three guitar players coming together more, would have made Sexton's performance better.

These shortcomings, however, were insignificant to the fine performance Sexton gave. It took three encores from Sexton before the audience reluctantly departed the Paradise. Several ardent fans waited around hoping to catch a glimpse of Sexton.

According to a recent Worcester Telegram article, Sexton, born in San Antonio and raised in Austin, began playing professionally at 11 and was the regular guitarist in Joe Ely's band at 13. Sexton has also done session work with Bob Dylan, Keith Richards and Don Henley. He wrote, sang, and played bass, guitar and keyboards on his debut record.

Now Playing At CCLH

April 26—
Mask (1985) Very sentimental film involving an energetic teen with a rare bone disease that has distorted his face but not his spirits. Cher turns in a fine performance as the mother trying to cope with tragedy and kick drug addiction. Great Bob Seager soundtrack and good direction by Peter Bogdanovich. Color, 120 mins. ★★★

April 30—
Play Misty For Me (1971) Clint Eastwood's directorial debut is an offbeat suspense film that plots a disc jockey against a psychopathic listener who is out to get him. Pretty good story and fine performances, especially Jessica Walter as the mysterious caller. Color, 102 mins. ★★★

May 3—
The Outlaw Josey Wales (1976) Part two of Clint Eastwood week at CCLH is more traditional Eastwood style. Our hero enlists in the Civil War after his family is murdered by renegades. Full of action and great one-liners for Clint. Color, 130 mins. ★★★

May 7—
Used Cars (1980) Jack Warden and Kurt Russell star as opposing car dealers in this hilarious look at life in the used auto business. Great stunts and situation comedy all the way through. Color, 113 mins. ★★½

May 10—
Running (1979) Jogging version of Rocky made in Canada has a few flaws including acting and storyline, but on the whole stands up due to the screen presence of Michael Douglas. Color, 103 mins. ★½

Thanks for another successful year at the movies. Come on down and catch the last chance for free entertainment. See you in September and thanks for the support.

CONTRACT FOR LIFE

STUDENTS AGAINST DRIVING DRUNK — S A D D

THE COLLEGE CONTRACT FOR LIFE BETWEEN FRIENDS

As students at _____, we recognize that many of our fellow students and friends choose to use alcoholic beverages and, that on occasion, some students may find themselves in a potential DWI situation.

Therefore, we have entered into a contract in which we agree that if we are ever in a situation where we have had too much to drink, or a friend or date who has had too much to drink, we will seek safe and sober transportation home.

We, the undersigned, also agree that we will provide or arrange safe, sober transportation home for each other should either of us face a situation where we have had too much to drink.

If we cannot find safe transportation, we will contact a taxi service, walk or stay the night.

_____ Signature of 1st Party _____ Signature of 2nd Party

_____ Date

Distributed by S.A.D.D., "Students Against Driving Drunk" compliments of

The STROBE

Movie Review

by Pamela Freedman
Staff Writer

The Color Purple is a tense drama centering around the Southern black family in the early 1900's.

The first glimpse we have of Celie (played by Whoopi Goldberg), is her as a teen looking at a baby she believes is hers. She had been raped by her stepfather, and bore two children that were given to the town minister and his wife.

Celie's life as a grown woman is not much better. This segment is introduced with Celie, the timid housewife, getting slapped viciously across the face by her tyrannical husband (Danny Glover). The suffering of this woman intensifies even further when her beloved sister comes to visit, and is brutally thrown out by Celie's husband. Her sister had been the only one who ever loved Celie and with her departure, Celie became even more despondent. Mister (Celie's husband), intercepts all mail addressed to Celie, making it impossible for her to receive her sister's letters.

The theme of the film is the condition of life of a black woman in the early 1900's. A woman was suppressed into obedience, and subjected to intolerable prejudice. Each of the women in the movie had their own way of fighting the discrimination and physical abuse they were subjected to. They each had to find their own form of salvation.

Celie finds love and companionship with her husband's mistress, Shrug Avery (Margaret Avery). Shrug is a beautiful performer, full of confidence and vitality. She is the first person (other than Celie's sister), who sees Celie as someone who matters. Shrug's attention and support help bring about the changes in Celie. Shrug plays an important part in helping Celie realize her potential.

Another important woman in this film is Sofia (Oprah Winfrey). Sofia is a loud and strong woman, until she is publicly hit on the head with a wrench and sent to jail for striking the mayor. This degrading experience breaks Sofia's spirit, and turns her into a timid woman like Celie. It is not until Celie emerges as a person and stands up to her husband that Sofia also comes back to life.

The color purple, as referred to in the film, represents hope and freedom. Celie is shown walking with Shrug through a field of purple flowers as they both agree that as long as such incredible beauty exists in the world, there is hope for a better life.

The Color Purple is a film about "coming out," or becoming independent and free. In the movie, Celie realizes that she does have worth, and that she has rights. The women all eventually resolve their conflicts and assert their independence. This is not achieved without a great deal of courage and suffering, which the actors portray with tremendous sincerity. The acting is superb, as is the story. This film is definitely worth seeing—again and again.

Volleyball Tournament Action

Net action at the volleyball tournament that benefitted the Special Olympics. The tournament was sponsored by The Esoteric Society, the Volleyball Club, Miller Beer and Coca-Cola.

Third-place finishers—"The Cleavers."

Dave Pratt—just one of the Esos that donated his time for the benefit volleyball tournament.

The champs—"Utter Abandon."

Striking Out at Baseball

Commentary

by Michael Rososky
Contributing Writer

Spring not only marks the end of the dreary winter months but it also means the start of another baseball season, America's reputed favorite pastime sport.

When I was a kid I used to look forward to baseball season because it was my favorite sport. Today, I have little regard, if any, for the sport that I once loved so dearly. Baseball has become a problem sport and it is destroying kids all over, the sad part is we do not even realize it.

It seems like being a kid and baseball go hand in hand. Every spring our coaches would drill us for hours on fundamentals such as fielding, batting, catching and throwing. On Saturday mornings I would wake up early and put on my red and white uniform.

I remember spending an hour in front of the mirror trying to get my hat to look just right on my head. My mother would come out into the living room and I would be seated on the floor rubbing some glove softner into my mitt. I remember getting yelled at for chewing a half a pack of bubble gum before breakfast.

Game time was at 10:30 a.m. and we arrived at the ball field at 9:45 a.m. Our coach made us practice on the side because he did not want us to mess up the freshly chalked base lines the Park Department had done earlier that morning. The umpire, usually some hungover college kid looking to make a few extra bucks, arrived at 10:30 or so and we would begin the game.

All the parents sat on the side of the field in their lounge chairs and cheered as loud as they could. Parents are the best fans. It seemed like my mother always had the loudest voice of all. The cheering helped because our team never lost any games.

After every victory we all piled in the back of our coach's pick-up truck and went to Friendly's for ice cream cones, double dips of course. What a motley looking crew we were standing in Friendly's parking lot wearing dirt soiled uniforms with half of the ice creams spilled down the front of our uniforms.

Another part of being a "baseball kid" meant going to Fenway Park to see a Red Sox game. We usually went on a bus trip that some father organized. We little leaguers sat in the front of the bus and drank Coca-Cola until our bladders were ready to explode.

The fathers congregated in the back of the bus with a trash barrel full of beer and told dirty jokes. When one of us tried to sneak back to use the bathroom we were always shooed-off to the front of the bus before the punch line came.

When we got to the park we dragged our fathers to the souvenir stands to buy us a little Red Sox bat or a program. After we found our seats the fathers made a beeline for the beer stands, and the team for the dugout.

We stood in awe as Red Sox greats such as Yaz, Luis Tiant, Carlton Fisk and Dwight Evans came out to take batting practice and warm up. I felt like the king of the world when Fisk came over to me and autographed my catchers mitt and shook my hand. The others signed their names too. I remember them telling us to practice hard and most of all always do well in school. It was a great day for me. At night when I got home I showed my mom all of the players' autographs and then I was sick to my stomach. She yelled at my father for buying me those five Fenway Franks. Regardless, it was all part of being a kid and living out baseball. Yes, those were the days when baseball was fun.

Times have changed and baseball today is not even half as spectacular as it was when I was younger. I would not want to be a kid today trying to survive in the baseball environment. Take a look at the youth leagues in the thousands of cities and towns across the country, they are all struggling to survive.

Budget cuts have put a stop to the nice, well kept ball fields. These days the grass grows knee high in center field and there are no base lines for a kid to follow.

No one is willing to support a team either. The local savings bank and variety store no longer have the money to donate to the kids. The price of uniforms and equipment is outrageous, leaving the little league team wearing the same uniforms that were popular when I played the game. Somehow the teams survive, usually through the donated time, effort and money from the families. It should not have to be that way.

The worst part of baseball is without doubt the major league players' controversy. The players are now constantly fighting through arbitration, striking and involving themselves in various illegal altercations. A number of major league players were recently brought up on drug charges and Los Angeles Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda was focused on by the media for his alleged ties to professional gambling.

Even a trip to Fenway Park is not what it used to be. I would not bring a little league team to see a game there. They would be subjected to people spilling beer everywhere and players spitting chewing tobacco all over the field.

These are the kinds of things that have made baseball a problem sport. I really regret having little regard for the sport that is country associates with apple pie. I wonder what baseball greats such as Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle and Ty Cobb would say about their sport the way it is today. I don't think that baseball's creator, Abner Doubleday, would appreciate all the drugs and money in his sport. Strike three, Baseball. You're out.

Sports Line

by Tom Goodwin
Staff Writer

The final results are in on the first ever Strobe, NCAA college basketball tournament contest, and it was Rick Carraher, with a grand total of 115 points, who came out ahead of the other 40 entrants. Carraher was the only prognosticator to nail the eventual Louisville over Duke final game right on the head. The Cardinals, along with his other Western bracket selections, garnered him 59 important points. Other participants who received the big 20 points bonus for correctly choosing Louisville were Steve Rondeau, a close second at 110, Max Beichel, third with 99, and FSC Sports Information Director Frank Millerick, who cashed in at 93 points. Other entries worth noting were Tom Coady's score of 94, accumulated without the aid of the 20 point bonus, and, on a more chauvanistic note, Ellen Murdock's total of 83, which outdid all other women's entries and placed her eighth overall.

***

I was fortunate enough to witness one of the greatest catches I've ever seen the other day, and I was nowhere near a baseball diamond at the time. While walking out of the Industrial Arts building, I saw women's outdoor track team members Teresa Rotolante and Chris DiZoglio sprinting towards a driverless car that was travelling backwards down Highland Avenue at a fairly decent clip. Rotolante reached the car first and, keeping top speed, opened the door, jumped in, and quickly fastened the emergency brake! What makes her altruistic effort all the more amazing was that while Rotolante was inside the runaway automobile, it had jumped over the curb and had hurtled to within a scant three feet of an onimously solid looking telephone pole. Moments later, the stunned, but obviously thankful owner appeared on the scene, but the speedy samaritan had already continued on her way to finishing her practice run, nursing a bruised shoulder, but having left the now stationary vehicle unhurt.

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Now that the warmer weather has arrived, instead of patronizing Russell Beach or your favorite off campus roof, why don't you check your spring sports schedule and consider packing a blanket and heading down to either Elliot field, or the McKay campus athletic field to catch your rays. There's plenty of space for stretching out, and, schedules permitting, you'll get the added benefit of catching your choice of Fitchburg softball, baseball, or track and field action. Every week for the rest of the year you can find at least one day of home field activity. It would be a shame to see mere handfuls of spectators at these events because the Falcons sport some talented and competitive teams who deserve a lot more crowd support than they're used to. My challenge then, especially for those who have never seen an FSC athletic event, is to turn off General Hospital and the GoBots and turn on the Falcons.

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SPORTS

Co-eds Wells and Crossman Shine at FSC Co-ed Meet

By Tom Goodwin

It was no coincidence that Fitchburg athletes had commendable performances at the FSC Co-ed Invitational track meet.

Several Falcons used the early season, non-scoring meet to concentrate on running one or two particular events in order to register qualifying times for championship meets later in the year.

For instance, Debbie Wells' 15.8 second effort in the 100 meter hurdles qualified her for the National Tournament, while men's performer Brian Crossman equaled that qualifying feat competing in the 200 meter dash with a 21.5 second clocking.

Qualifying for the All New England track meet were: Arlene Mahoney in the 800 meters (2:18:6), the men's 4 x 100 meter relay team of Jamie Wyeth, Ken Simmons, Matt Shea and Crossman (43:00), and Simmons in the 110 meter hurdles (14.8).

Running for the FSC Track Club, Wayne Daley and Willis Todman blistered the 100 meters of track with timings of 10.8 and 11.0 seconds respectively.

Mary Wenninger won the women's high jump at 5 feet 4 inches, having already qualified for the Outdoor Nationals in the event earlier.

Gail Ierardi's 4:49:5 was well under the limit to get her into the Eastern Coast track meet at 1500 meters, as was Alison Vogt's 2:23:1 in the 800.

Others turning in stellar performances for Fitchburg were Kim Manzi, who won her 400 meter heat. Jeff Blondin, a final round javelin competitor with a 50 foot 9 inch toss, and senior Steve Curran who turned in a personal record 15:05 in the 5,000 meters, were other key performers for the men's team.

Both men's track coach Dave Farnsworth and women's track coach Jim Jellison were pleased with the way the meet ran and its results.

"It all went pretty smoothly for the number of teams we had out there, considering we were missing three officials," admitted Farnsworth. "We had a decent day weather-wise which helped everyone. I was also happy with the way our guys ran."

"Because it was a non-scoring meet, we didn't have to overrun anybody out there," echoed Jellison. "Therefore you saw some pretty good times run."

FOR THE RECORD* Congratulations to the 1986 Intramural Volleyball Champs.

Photo by Tom Goodwin

Debbie Wells hurdles into the National Track Meet.

FSC Baseball Team Finds Groove

by Andy Baron
Staff Writer

Mum's the word, for FSC baseball head coach Dick Ballou and Company this season. "We're going to raise some eyebrows this year, so being the darkhorse is just fine with me," says Ballou.

It seems fine with his players too. FSC, 3-3, lost three straight games over spring break, only to come back and win three in succession up north.

Ballou eyed the training in Florida as a chance for his team to get in shape, with a specific target at the pitching corps. "Our biggest question mark is our pitching and the training gave me a chance to look at some of our younger players."

Veteran senior pitcher Jon Drew posts a 2-1 record with a 1.95 ERA, while junior Joel Wetherell is 1-1 with a 3.21 ERA. After six games, sophomore Lou Falcone is leading the Falcons in hitting with a .400 mark, including 2 HR and 4 RBI. Sophomore Gary Blanchette is hitting .384 with one homer.

Coach Ballou has praised the spirit of his team and is pleased with the positive attitude shown by his players. "There's excellent chemistry on our team. They are all coachable and are great to work with."

Working on their first doubleheader of the season, FSC swept Curry College 14-9 and 14-1. According to Ballou, two "outstanding" twinbills will be played this year. Salem State (April 13) and North Adams State (April 27), the two strongest teams in the MASCAC Conference, will take on host Fitchburg. With a little luck, Coach Ballou looks to uphold his darkhorse image throughout the season. And remember—mum's the word.

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All submissions must be typed and double-spaced. Editorials and letters are subject to editing.

Winning is Six Times as Nice

by Andy Baron
Staff Writer

Good things are bound to happen when you score six times as many runs as your opponents. Such was the case in FSC's first four softball contests, as the Falcons tallied 54 runs, while holding opponents to a mere nine runs. The result is a 3-1 record that, according to coach John Boissoneau, could read four wins and no losses.

After losing a tough opening game to Mount Holyoke 5-4, FSC has roared back to win three straight contests. "Up to this point, we've done very well," explains Boissoneau. "We have a very strong defense and we're hitting the ball real well."

So well, that in the last three games, the Falcons have scored 50 runs while batting close to .400 as a team. UMass-Boston would be the first of two teams to get thrashed by FSC, losing 21-2. In a doubleheader played on April 5, host Fitchburg swept Emmanuel College by 13-1 and 16-1 scores. Lisa Forget was the winning pitcher in the first game, pitching the full seven innings. In the second game, Linda Pellegrino and Betsy Tuccio combined for the win.

Concludes Boissoneau, "I'm really pleased with the pitching. If it holds up, we're going to be competitive." The FSC softball team, playing with competitive fire, will face the heart of its 1986 schedule in upcoming weeks.

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